

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-9 (cancelled)

Claim 10. (currently amended) A device for the detection of an altered state in a system containing a liquid medium, said device comprising: a tube housing a heating means within said tube to establish and maintain the internal temperature of said tube; a temperature sensing means within said tube to monitor and detect changes in temperatures within the tube; and, a signal means also located within said tube to provide a signal indicating a temperature increase within the tube thereby alerting of the existence of an altered state.

Claim 11. (original) The device according to claim 10 wherein the system containing a liquid medium is a dishwasher.

Claim 12. (original) The device according to claim 10 wherein the system is a water heater.

Claim 13. (original) The device according to claim 10 wherein the system is a boiler.

Claim 14. (original) The device according to claim 10 whersin the altered state is the accumulation of scale.